AMENDED CLAIMS IN CLEAN FORM

8. (Once Amended) A computer implemented method for controlling a universal set-top-box (STB), said method comprising the acts of:

receiving digital data in a plurality of channels and an electronic program guide (EPG) indicating the nature of data transmitted in each of said plurality of channels, wherein a first one of said plurality of channels includes a data-on-demand program providing on-demand data in a non client specific format, said EPG indicating that said data-on-demand program includes a first data file being represented by a first plurality of data blocks, said first plurality of data blocks being provided sequentially within time slots in a manner such that a user of said universal STB may at any time begin accessing said first data file within one time slot, and wherein no request for said data-on-demand program was sent from a receiving STB;

providing said EPG data to said user of said universal STB;

receiving a data processing instructions from said user of said universal STB requiring access of said first data file; and

implementing said instructions from said user of said universal STB.

15. (Once Amended) A computer implemented universal broadcast method comprising the acts of:

at a universal data broadcast system, performing the acts of:

preparing a delivery matrix defining a data transmission sequence suitable for broadcast, to a plurality of clients, on-demand data in a non client specific manner, whereby transmission of said on-demand data files requires an amount of transmission bandwidth that is independent of the number of said plurality of clients;

providing a first channel server suitable for the transmission of on-demand data via a first channel;

prior to data broadcast, preparing said first channel server for the transmission of data-on-demand information, said preparing said first channel server including the acts retrieving said delivery matrix into a memory of said first channel server and retrieving data blocks scheduled for delivery by said deli very matrix into said memory of said first channel server;

transmitting an electronic program guide (EPG) including information indicating that said first channel contains on-demand data; and

transmitting data from said first channel and a second channel;

and

at a universal STB, performing the acts of:

receiving digital data including data in said first channel, and said EPG;

providing said EPG data to a user of said universal STB;

receiving data processing instructions from said user of said universal STB; and

implementing said instructions from said user of said universal STB.

Claims 3-7, 14, 17-29 and 32-35 have been withdrawn in response to a restriction requirement.